In re: Adam R Grossman Debtor Case No. 10-19817-MLB Chapter 7

### **CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE**

District/off: 0981-2 User: cynthiah Page 1 of 3 Date Rcvd: Feb 02, 2012 Form ID: pdf Total Noticed: 44

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Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on
Feb 04, 2012.
                 #+Adam R Grossman, 5766 - 27th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105-5512

+M Moburg, Routh Crabtree Olsen PS, 13555 SE 36th St #300, Bellevue, WA 98006-1489

+Mark Moburg, Routh Crabtree Olsen PS, 13555 SE 36th St ste 300, Bellevue, WA 98006-1489

+Mark Moburg, Routh Crabtree Olsen PS, 13555 SE 36th St #300, Bellevue, WA 98006-1489

+Jill Borodin, c/o Crocker Law Group PLLC, 720 Olive Way #1000, Seattle, WA 98101-1881
db
                 #+Adam R Grossman,
aty
aty
aty
sr
                  +Law Office of Matthew D. O'Conner, 8011 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103-4228
sr
                  +Lyman C Opie, c/o Davis Wright Tremaine, 1201 Third Avenue #2200, S
+Tsai Law Company, 2101 4th Avenue Suite 1560, Seattle, WA 98121-2316
                                                                                                                        Seattle, WA 98101-3047
sr
ga
                  +Wells Fargo Bank NA, Routh Crabtree Olsen, P.S.,
                                                                                                                        13555 SE 36th ST,
                                                                                              c/o Mark MoBurg,
                     Suite 300, Bellevue, WA 98006-1489
                  +Abraham Wyner, 1309 Sussex Rd, Wynnewood, PA 19096-2526
+Bank of America, 4161 Piedmont Pkwy, Greensboro, NC 27410-8119
952674523
952674514
                  +Beth Shalom Preschool, 6800 35th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115-7334
+Bugni Law Firm, 11320 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98125-6228
952860697
952860698
                                         5280 CORPORATE DRIVE, BANKRUPTCY DEPARTMENT,
                                                                                                              ATTENTION MC0023, FREDERICK MD,
                 ++CITIMORTGAGE,
952860700
                     21703-8351
                  (address filed with court: Citi Mortgage,
                                                                                5280 Corporate Drive MC0257,
                                                                                                                             Frederick, MD 21703)
952860699
                  +California Franchise Tax Board, P.O. Box 942857, Sacramento, CA 94257-0001
                  +Chase Bank USA, 800 Brooksedge Blvd., Westerville, OH 43081-2822 Chase Bank USA, N.A., PO Box 15145, Wilmington, DE 19850-5145
952674515
952750609
                  +Cindy Loegering, PO Box 993115, Redding, CA 96099-3115
952674518
                  +CitiBank Student Loan, PO Box 22876, Rochester, NY 14692-2876
+City of Seattle Parking Enforcement, 600 5th Ave, Seattle, WA 98104-1900
+Congregation Beth Shalom, Early Childhood Center, Attn Tzachi Litov, 6800 35th Avenue NE,
952674516
952860701
953037062
                     Seattle WA 98115-7334
                   FIA CARD SERVICES, N.A.,
953584560
                                                        PO Box 15102, Wilmington, DE 19886-5102
                 Franchise Tax Board, Bankruptcy Section MS A340, Sacramento CA 95812-2952 ++INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, CENTRALIZED INSOLVENCY OPERATIONS, PO BOX 7346,
952924048
952771523
                     PHILADELPHIA PA 19101-7346
                  (address filed with court: Internal Revenue Service, P.O.Box 21126, Philaston Johnson & Michael Bullock, 773 Metro Way, Redding, CA 96003-2765 +Jill & Brian Reynolds, 9 Laurel Circle, Lutherville, MD 21093-4753 Jill & Bryan Reynolds, 66 Echo Way Court, Towson, MD 21286 +Lyman Opie, 60 Magazine St, Cambridge, MA 02139-3934
                                                                                                                         Philadelphia, PA 19114)
952860702
953198701
952860705
952674520
                  +Ms. Kerith Lisa, P.O. Box 42691, Tucson, AZ 85733-2691
952860703
                  +Peter Zieve, 10517 62nd Pl W, Mukilteo WA 98275-4639
+Rob Middleton, House of Realty Inc, 1707 Place Street, Redding CA 96001-1715
+Stephen LeBlanc, c/o Quine Intellectual Property Law Grou, 2033 Clement Avenue, Ste. 200,
953198700
953309566
953198699
                     Alameda, CA 94501-7907
                   Wells Fargo Bank NA, PO Box 6995,
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Home Equit
953309567
                                                                       Portland OR 97228-6995
952738298
                                                      Home Equity Group, X2303-01A, 1 Home Campus,
                     Des Moines, IA 50328-0001
                                                                                         MAC # X7801-014, Ft Mill, SC Blvd, Fort Mill, SC 29715-7203
                  +Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 3476 Stateview Blvd., MAC # X7801-014,
+Wells Fargo Equity Resources, 3476 State View Blvd, Fort Mill,
+Wells Fargo Home Equity, PO Box 31557, Billings, MT 59107-1557
                                                                                                                     Ft Mill, SC 29715-7203
952780036
952674522
952674521
Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.
                   E-mail/PDF: gecsedi@recoverycorp.com Feb 03 2012 03:41:51 GE Money Bank, c/o Office Manager, Recovery Management Systems Corp, 25 SE 2nd Ave #1120, Miami, FL 33131-1605
                    E-mail/PDF: mrdiscen@discoverfinancial.com Feb 03 2012 03:39:23
                                                                                                                   Discover Card,
952674517
                                                                                                                                            12 Reads Way,
                     New Castle, DE 19720
952683338
                   E-mail/PDF: mrdiscen@discoverfinancial.com Feb 03 2012 03:39:23
                                                                                                                  Discover Bank,
                     Dfs Services LLC, \, PO Box 3025, \, New Albany, OH \, 43054-3025 \,
953089860
                  +E-mail/Text: USTPREGION18.SE.ECF@USDOJ.GOV Feb 03 2012 02:17:19
                   Office of the United States Trustee, 700 Stewart Street, Suite 5103, Seattle, WA 98101-4438 E-mail/PDF: rmscedi@recoverycorp.com Feb 03 2012 03:39:54
952768583
                     Recovery Management Systems Corporation, 25 S.E. 2nd Avenue, Suite 1120,
                     Miami, FL 33131-1605
952674519
                  +E-mail/PDF: pa_dc_claims@salliemae.com Feb 03 2012 03:53:44
                                                                                                              Sallie Mae, 1002 Arthur Dr.,
                     Lynn Haven, FL 32444-1683
                  +E-mail/PDF: pa_dc_claims@salliemae.com Feb 03 2012 03:42:40 Sallie Mae, c/o Sallie Mae Inc.,
953614435
                     220 Lasley Ave.,
                                              Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706-1496
                                                                                                                                  TOTAL: 7
               ***** BYPASSED RECIPIENTS (undeliverable, * duplicate) *****
acc
                  Bruce Deveraux
                   House of Realty Inc
                   Rob Middleton
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Wells Fargo Bank NA

District/off: 0981-2 User: cynthiah Page 2 of 3 Date Rcvd: Feb 02, 2012

Form ID: pdf Total Noticed: 44

aty\* +Mark Moburg, Routh Crabtree Olsen PS, 13555 SE 36th St #300, Bellevue, WA 98006-1489 aty\* +Mark Moburg, Routh Crabtree Olsen PS, 13555 SE 36th St. #300, Bellevue, WA 98006-1489

TOTALS: 4, \* 2, ## 1

Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.

Addresses marked '++' were redirected to the recipient's preferred mailing address pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f)/Fed.R.Bank.PR.2002(g)(4).

Addresses marked '#' were identified by the USPS National Change of Address system as requiring an update. While the notice was still deliverable, the notice recipient was advised to update its address with the court immediately.

Addresses marked '##' were identified by the USPS National Change of Address system as undeliverable. Notices will no longer be delivered by the USPS to these addresses; therefore, they have been bypassed. The debtor's attorney or pro se debtor was advised that the specified notice was undeliverable.

I, Joseph Speetjens, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 9): Pursuant to Fed. R. Bank. P. 2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Feb 04, 2012

Signature

Joseph Spections

District/off: 0981-2 User: cynthiah Page 3 of 3 Date Rcvd: Feb 02, 2012

Form ID: pdf Total Noticed: 44

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on February 1, 2012 at the address(es) listed below:

Bradley Boswell Jones on behalf of Creditor Wells Fargo Bank NA bbjlaw301@hotmail.com, wmp935@hotmail.com

Denice E Moewes on behalf of Plaintiff Ronald Brown dmoewes@aol.com, tessmkent@aol.com Gloria Z Nagler on behalf of Spec. Counsel Tsai Law Company gloria@naglerlaw.com, david@naglerlaw.com

Hugh R. McCullough on behalf of Defendant Lyman Opie hughmccullough@dwt.com, elainehuckabee@dwt.com;seadocket@dwt.com

Jeffrey B Wells on behalf of Debtor Adam Grossman paralegal@jeffwellslaw.com

Martin L. Smith on behalf of Plaintiff United States Trustee martin.l.smith@usdoj.gov, Young-Mi.Petteys@usdoj.gov;Tara.Maurer@usdoj.gov;Martha.A.VanDraanen@usdoj.gov

Matthew D. O'Conner on behalf of Special Request Law Office of Matthew D. O'Conner pacer@mdolaw.com, dana@mdolaw.com

Ronald G Brown rgblaw@nwlink.com, rgbrown@ecf.epiqsystems.com

Shelly Crocker on behalf of Special Request Jill Borodin scrocker@crockerlaw.com; thao@crockerlaw.com;nancy@crockerlaw.com;keith@crockerlaw.com;ida@crockerlaw.com;aaron@crockerlaw.com;ecf@crockerlaw.com;aaron@crockerlaw.com;ecf@crockerlaw.com;aaron@crockerlaw.com;ecf@crockerlaw.com;

United States Trustee USTPRegion18.SE.ECF@usdoj.gov

William F Malaier on behalf of Spec. Counsel Tsai Law Company william@naglerlaw.com, david@naglerlaw.com

William L. Courshon on behalf of US Trustee United States Trustee bill.l.courshon@usdoj.gov, Young-Mi.Petteys@usdoj.gov;Tara.Maurer@usdoj.gov

TOTAL: 12

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Judge: Marc L. Barreca Chapter: Chapter 7 Hearing Date: March 2, 2012 Hearing Time: 9:30 a.m.

Hearing Site: 700 Stewart St., #7106

Seattle, WA 98101

Reply Date: February 24, 2012

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

In re: Case No. 10-19817

ADAM GROSSMAN, NOTICE OF HEARING ON AND

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING COMPLIANCE WITH COURT ORDER OR ALTERNATIVELY COMPELLING THE TSAI LAW COMPANY AND EMILY TSAI TO TURNOVER PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE

TO: Creditors and other parties in interest.

Debtors.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the Trustee's Motion for Order Compelling the Tsai Law Company and Emily Tsai to Comply with Court Order, or Alternatively to Compel Turnover of Property of the Estate will be heard on the 2nd day of March, 2012 before Judge Marc L. Barreca of U.S. Bankruptcy Court, 700 Stewart Street, Courtroom 7106, Seattle, Washington 98101 at 9:30 a.m. and the Clerk is requested to note the same for the motion docket on that date.

#### I. STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 1.1 The debtor filed this current bankruptcy proceeding as a voluntary chapter 11 bankruptcy petition on August 19, 2010 ("Petition Date"). Ronald Brown was appointed as the Chapter 11 Trustee on December 22, 2010. The case was converted to a Chapter 7 on March 11, 2011. Ron Brown was appointed as the Chapter 7 Trustee on March 11, 2011.
- 1.2 On the Petition Date the debtor was involved in a divorce proceeding pending in King County Superior Court, case number 09-3-02955-9 SEA.

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE Page 1

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- 1.3 On or about September 16, 2010, after the Petition Date, the debtor retained the Tsai Law Company and Emily Tsai to represent him in the pending dissolution trial. In that proceeding the debtor was being represented by the Tsai Law Company and Emily Tsai. (docket #28 and 29).
- 1.4 At or about the same time, Jill Borodin, the debtor's ex-wife, alleged that the debtor paid Ms. Tsai a retainer of \$7,500.00 funds borrowed from friends and family members post-petition. This however was not accurate. In fact, the debtor had paid the Tsai Law Company and Emily Tsai a total of \$32,500 (docket #43).
- 1.5 No motion to employ the Tsai Law Company or Emily Tsai was filed with the Court simultaneously with the debtor's alleged employment of Emily Tsai and the Tsai Law Company. No motion was filed or order entered authorizing the debtor to pay any funds to the Tsai Law Company.
- 1.6 On October 19, 2010 Jill Borodin, the debtor's ex- wife, filed a motion for order for disgorgement of fees ("Disgorgement Motion" docket #28).
- 1.7 On November 4, 2010, in response to the Disgorgement Motion, the debtor filed an Application to Employ Emily Tsai ("Tsai Employment Application") as special counsel (docket #42).
- 1.8 In support of the Tsai Employment Application, Emily Tsai filed a declaration (docket #43) in which she stated the following in terms of funds she received:
  - 9. I have received three deposits on behalf of Debtor's state court family law case's legal fees.
  - 10. Two of those deposits, the first and the third, were paid directly to me by third parties on Mr. Grossman's behalf and not by Mr. Grossman.
  - 11. On September 16, 2010, I received \$7,500.00 from Peter Hendrickson on Mr.

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE Page 2

Grossman's behalf. These funds were placed into my firm's IOLTA account.

- 12. I have advanced costs from that retainer of approximately \$5,000.00 as of this date for expert witness fees and some deposition costs.
- 13. On October 11, 2010, I received \$20,000.00 from Lyman Opie on Mr.

Grossman's behalf. These funds were placed into my firm's IOLTA account.

- 14. Insofar as I have been able to ascertain, neither I nor my firm has any connection, legal or otherwise, with either of the third party payors.
- 15. Insofar as I have been able to ascertain, neither I nor my firm represent any interest adverse to either of the two third party payors.
- 16. The second deposit in the sum of \$5,000.00, was paid to me by cashier's check by Mr. Grossman on September 25, 2010. These funds were placed into my firm's IOLTA account.
- 17. The funds paid directly to me by Mr. Grossman (the \$5,000.00) were returned by my firm to Mr. Grossman on October 22, 2010, pending the motion to appoint me as special counsel. These funds were paid by check to Mr. Grossman out of my firm's IOLTA account.
- 1.9 Thus as of the date of the Tsai Employment Application, the Tsai Law Company was holding a retainer of \$27,500.00.
- 1.10 On November 12, 2010 he Court denied the Disgorgement Motion and granted the Tsai Employment Application. The Order Granting Application to Employ Special Counsel Nunc Pro Tunc (Tsai Employment Order") (docket #62) specifically stated:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Adam R. Grosman, as Debtor-In-Possession, be and is hereby authorized to employ and retain the Tsai Law Company, PLC., as his attorneys at the rate of \$295 per hour for attorney's fees or \$3,500 per day during trial to perform all of the services set forth in the Application, said fees to be subject to approval by the Court.

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE Page 3

1.11 Despite the language of the Tsai Employment Order, it appears that once the Order was entered the Tsai Law Group paid itself the entire \$27,500.00 even though it did not file a fee application seeking approval of its fees or authorizing payment of its retainer and no orders were entered authorizing the same. See Exhibit "1" and "2" to the Declaration of Denice Moewes filed simultaneously herewith.

- 1.12 However, this fact was never disclosed to the Court at any point, and this fact is not disclosed by Ms. Tsai when she finally filed her and the Tsai Law Company first and final application for compensation (docket #150 and 151).
- 1.13 Ultimately the fees of Ms. Tsai and the Tsai Law Company were approved. However, the order specifically stated that:

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Tsai Law Company shall continue to hold in its IOLTA trust account all funds received in relation to this matter, including the sum of \$29,500.00 paid to Tsai Law Company by Dennis Vidach and Susan Myers, pending further Order of this Court.

(Docket # 196).

- 1.14 The issue of whether Ms. Tsai and the Tsai Law Company could disburse any funds in payment of the approved fees was reserved until discovery could be conducted.
- 1.15 An Order Denying Application for Disbursement of Fees to Tsai Law Group ("Order Denying Tsai Disbursement of Fees") was entered on September 15, 2011 (docket #220).
  - 1.16 The order specifically stated that

ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Disbursement Request is denied and the Tsai Law Group is required to turnover the funds in its trust account to the Trustee.

1.17 There should have been a total of \$57,000.00 that the Tsai Law Company and Emily Tsai were holding in the trust account, the \$27,500 that was received prior to the appointment of a trustee and the \$29,500.00 that was received after the appointment of the trustee (docket #196 and #43).

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE Page 4

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1.18 However, since Ms. Tsai and the Tsai Law Company paid themselves\$27,500.00 without court approval that money was not in the trust account.

1.19 Demand was made on Emily Tsai and the Tsai Law Company for turnover of the additional \$27,500.00, but as of this date the \$27,500.00 has not been paid to the Trustee. See Exhibit "3" Moewes Declaration.

#### II. Motion to Compel Turnover

Section 542 of the Bankruptcy Code requires any entity, other than a custodian, in possession, custody or control of property of the estate, to turnover property of the estate, except property of an inconsequential value. Neither Emily Tsai nor the Tsai Law Company are custodians as defined under section 101(11) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Funds obtained after the date the chapter 11 was filed, but before the case was converted to a Chapter 7 constitute property of the estate. Section 541(a)(7)

The \$27,500.00 clearly is not of inconsequential value.

## III. Motion to Compel Compliance with Court Order

The Order Denying Tsai Disbursement of Fees was entered on September 15, 2011 required the Tsai Law Company and Emily Tsai to turnover all funds in her trust account. The amount she was holding should have been 57,000.00. The fact that the Tsai Law Company and Ms. Tsai took \$27,500.00 of the funds and paid herself, in violation of the Tsai Employment Order does not mean that she does not have to comply with the Order Denying Tsai Disbursement of Fees and turn the funds over. In order for the Tsai Law Company and Ms. Tsai to bring themselves in compliance with the Order Denying Tsai Disbursement of Fees requires that this Court order the additional \$27,500.00 turned over.

WHEREFORE, the Trustee requests that the Court enter and order compelling Emily Tsai and the Tsai Law company to turnover \$27,500.00 to the trustee within 10 days of the entry of the order. In the event the funds are not paid to the trustee within 10 days the

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE Page 5

Trustee requests that this Court authorize the Trustee to send a motion and order to show cause, ex parte, in relation to this matter.

#### **OBJECTIONS**

Your rights may be affected. You should read these papers carefully and discuss them with your attorney, if you have one in this bankruptcy case. (If you do not have an attorney, you may wish to consult one.)

If you do not want the Court to grant the relief requested in the Trustee's Motion, or if you want the Court to consider your view on the Trustee's Motion, then on or before Friday, February 24, 2012, you or your attorney must file with the Court a written response to the Trustee's Motion explaining your position. The response must be filed at U.S. Bankruptcy Court, 700 Stewart Street, Seattle, Washington 98101, and a copy served on Denice Moewes, 303 N. 67<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle, Washington, 98103.

If you mail your response you must mail it early enough so that the Court, the Judge and the undersigned will receive it on or before the date stated above.

If you or your attorney do not take these steps, the Court may decide that you do not oppose the relief sought in the Trustee's Motion and may enter an order granting that relief.

Further information regarding the Trustee's proposal may be obtained by telephoning Denice Moewes at Wood & Jones, P.S., (206) 623-4382

DATED this 1st day of February, 2012.

WOOD & JONES, P.S.

/s/ Denice E. Moewes

Denice E. Moewes, WSB#19464 Attorney for Chapter 7 Trustee Ronald G. Brown

TRUSTEE'S MOTION FOR ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 Judge: Marc L. Barreca Chapter: Chapter 7 17 18 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE 19 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE 20 In re: Case No. 10-19817 21 ADAM GROSSMAN, ORDER COMPELLING THE TSAI LAW COMPANY 22 AND EMILY TSAI TO COMPLY WITH THE Debtor. PREVIOUS COURT ORDER OR ALTERNATIVELY 23 TO COMPEL TURNOVER PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE TO THE TRUSTEE 24 25 THIS MATTER having come before Judge Marc L. Barreca on the Trustee's Motion for 26 Order Compelling the Tsai Law Company to Comply with the Previous Court Order or 27 Alternatively to Compel Turnover Property of the Estate ("Trustee's Motion"); the Court finding 28 29 ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER, Wood & Jones, P.S. 303 N. 67<sup>th</sup> Street Seattle, WA 98103 OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE (206) 623-4382 Page 1

that notice of the Trustee's Motion was timely given to all creditors listed on the mailing matrix and hence was in compliance with the Bankruptcy Code and Rules; the Court having reviewed the Trustee's Motion, and having reviewed any Objections filed thereto, and having reviewed the files and deeming itself fully informed in this matter, now, therefore, it hereby is

ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Tsai Law Company is required to comply with this Court's Order of September 15, 2011 (docket #220) and turnover \$27,500.00 of funds it paid to itself out of the trust account within 10 days of the entry of this Order, and it is further

ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the if the \$27,500.00 is not turned over to the Trustee within 10 days of the entry of this Order, the Trustee may file an ex parte motion and order for contempt.

///END OF ORDER///

Presented by:

Wood & Jones, P.S.

/s/ Denice E. Moewes

Denice E. Moewes, WSB#19464

Attorney for Trustee

Ronald G. Brown

ORDER COMPELLING TURNOVER, OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE

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